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RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____
 TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
 ENCLOSURE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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September 27, 1961

DEFCLASS

I have received your letter of September 21, 1961 which requests a report regarding the probable cause of the accident suffered by the Boeing 707 aircraft operated by Sabena Belgian World Airlines at Brussels on February 15, 1961.

As you are probably aware, investigation of this accident is under the complete jurisdiction of the Belgian Government. Our latest information indicates that the investigation by the Belgian authorities is still in progress and no official statement of cause has as yet been issued. We understand that tests are now being conducted by the Belgian Investigation Commission on various parts of the aircraft equipment recovered after the accident.

The Department does expect to receive a copy of the final report of the inquiry into this accident. However, investigations of such disasters usually require a considerable length of time before a final report is released by the appropriate authorities. In this particular case, there has been no indication as to when the accident investigation will be terminated.

I hope that the above information will prove helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

1985.
S/S-CR

Henry T. Snowden
Chief
Aviation Division

SEP 26 1961 PM

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TRC:AV:GPV:arros:kjl 9/25/61

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